

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 1, 2014

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 1, 2014

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2013–14 REGULAR SESSION

## ASSEMBLY BILL

**No. 1974**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Quirk**

February 19, 2014

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An act to amend Section 1252 of the Health and Safety Code, relating to health facilities.

### LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1974, as amended, Quirk. Health facilities: special services.

Existing law provides for the licensure and regulation of health facilities by the State Department of Public Health and prohibits a health facility from providing a special service without the approval of the department. Existing law defines a “special service” to mean a functional division, department, or unit of a health facility that is organized, staffed, and equipped to provide a specific type of patient care and that has been identified by regulations of the department and for which the department has established special standards for quality of care.

The bill would specify that a “special service” does not include a functional division, department, or unit of a nursing facility *that is certified to participate as a provider in the Medicare or Medi-Cal program* and that is organized, staffed, and equipped to provide physical therapy services, occupational therapy services, or speech pathology and audiology services to residents of the facility.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1     SECTION 1. Section 1252 of the Health and Safety Code is  
2     amended to read:  
3     1252. “Special service” means a functional division,  
4     department, or unit of a health facility that is organized, staffed,  
5     and equipped to provide a specific type or types of patient care  
6     and that has been identified by regulations of the state department  
7     and for which the state department has established special standards  
8     for quality of care. “Special service” does not include a functional  
9     division, department, or unit of a nursing facility, *as defined in*  
10    *subdivision (k) of Section 1250*, that is organized, staffed, and  
11    equipped to provide physical therapy services, occupational therapy  
12    services, or speech pathology and audiology services to residents  
13    of the facility.

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